

# **City of Rockville Environment Commission**

## **Watersheds Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday February 21, 2012**

**Blue Crab, Rockville City Hall**

**7:15 pm**

**Meeting Attendance:** Anne Goodman, Steve Cardon, Joe Arrowsmith, Heather Gewandter (Staff)

### **1. Environment Commission Report**

- Steve Cardon reported that the Environment Commission:
  - Went over the submissions, points and survey results for SMC.
  - Identified Council Member Pierzchala as the new liaison.
  - Went over the High Performance Tax credit status and identified a member to support it at the Mayor and Council meeting.
  - Found out that the EC budget has been decreased to \$1000 – the Watershed Committee will see if additional/replacement parts are needed for the watershed model.
  - Discussed the status of the Montgomery College Environmental Excellent Award nomination. Discussed the possibility of awarding environmental excellence awards to people with solar panels.
  - Determined if the priorities from the retreat were on-going activities or events. In both cases, members volunteered to help staff each priority. The first task is to write workplans.
  - Discussed the up-coming multi-city meeting. Julie will represent the Commission.
  - Discussed that the next Rock Creek study public meeting is in March.

### **2. Environmental Management Division Report**

- Heather Gewandter reported:
  - Shannon Philbin started as the new Watershed Protection Specialist.
  - The FOG Inspector (official title is also Watershed Protection Specialist) position has been frozen by the City Manager's Office.

### **3. Strategic Planning Retreat Follow-up**

- The Watershed Committee is in charge of the Adopt-A-Stream event and is writing SOPs/Workplan.
  - Anne will develop the outreach component.
  - Steve will outline how to coordinate with the City.

- Joe will describe what to do in the stream including safety guidelines.
- Julie will tie it all together.

#### **4. Update on Upper Watts Branch Task Force**

- Approximately 30-40 residents and task force members took part in the three hour stream valley walk.
- The consultants were knowledgeable and patient. The walk was pretty educational.
- The consultants were honest in answering questions stating that they could not comment on design until they had collected all the data.
- Overall there is positive support for the project, especially the outfalls.
- Next meeting is the environmental restoration "101 Class" scheduled for March 13.
- There is a lot of interest/concern in the community re: invasive species.

#### **6. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

The next Watersheds Committee meeting is scheduled for  
**Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 7:15 pm**  
**in the Blue Crab conference room at Rockville City Hall**  
**111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.**